



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF  
LEARNING SERVICES

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**Subject: Message #22: Social Studies Requirements and Resources**

**Date: August 19, 2015**

**To: [adecurriculum@lists.state.ar.us](mailto:adecurriculum@lists.state.ar.us)**

**From: Arkansas Department of Education Curriculum and Instruction Unit**

Dear Curriculum Leaders:

The following information pertains to requirements in the area of Social Studies and History. Please forward this information to those in your district who would benefit from this information.

1. Sample review units (including handouts containing worksheets and reading passages) for Grade 8 and high school US History Since 1890 are available on the ADE Website under Social Studies Curriculum and Instruction Resources at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/resource-materials-for-lesson-plans/social-studies>. There are new social studies resources to assist teachers in developing curriculum maps, pacing or scope and sequence guides, and units of study. National Geographic has created an Arkansas page aligning the Grade 7 curriculum framework to specific resources (e.g., activities, videos, lesson plans, maps, primary sources). This free resource is available at <http://education.nationalgeographic.com/arkansas/> and is linked on the ADE Website under Social Studies Curriculum and Instruction Resources at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/resource-materials-for-lesson-plans/social-studies>. Also on the Social Studies Curriculum and Instruction Resources page are new C3 resources. An Arkansas page containing presentations and handouts from the two-day Inquiry Design Model (IDM) workshop June 2015, and a link to the NY Toolkit containing several K-12 inquiries, many are annotated, all are free, downloadable, and may be edited or revised to align with AR standards and grade levels.
2. A Commissioner's Memo containing information and resources for Constitution Day, September 17, 2015; Celebrate Freedom Week, September 21-25, 2015; resources for African American history and other social studies legislation has been written. Updated resources for Constitution Day and Celebrate Freedom Week are attached to the Commissioner's Memo and can also be found on the Social Studies Wiki.
3. Arkansas History: Act 787 of 1997, Ark. Code Ann. Sec. 6-16-124, and Ark. Code Ann. Sec. 6-17-418 requires one unit of Arkansas history be taught as a social studies subject at each elementary grade level in every public school in the state, with greater emphasis at the fourth and fifth grade levels. The revised K-6 Social Studies Curriculum Framework embeds AR history and indicates student learning expectations that could address AR history topics with an AR icon (an outline of the state). At least one full semester of Arkansas History shall be taught to all students at either the

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*Please share this information with others that might be interested. Thank you for serving the students of Arkansas.*

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Arkansas Department of Education  
Learning Services Division  
Curriculum and Instruction Section  
Director: [Stacy Smith](#)  
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seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, OR twelfth grade in every public secondary school in this state. There are 2 Arkansas History courses, one for Grades 7 or 8 and one for Grades 9-12. The Arkansas History Curriculum Framework may be accessed directly at <http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/curriculum-and-instruction/curriculum-framework-documents/social-studies-new-courses-valid-july-1-2015>. In addition, HB 1262 of 2013, Ark. Code Ann. Sec. 6-17-703, requires that every district in the state provide two hours of substantive and meaningful in-service in Arkansas history for teachers who provide instruction in Arkansas history. According to the professional development schedule under Ark. Code Ann. Sec 6-17-709, Arkansas History in-service will be required in 2016-17.

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